

REMARKS

The undersigned greatly appreciates the courtesy extended by the Examiner for the telephonic interviews which were conducted on April 8 and April 12. It is especially appreciated in view of the fact that the Examiner's office was being moved from Crystal City to the Alexandria campus during this time. During the interview on April 8, the Examiner advised the undersigned of the final rejection of the claims made via an Office Action which was completed on or about March 31, 2005, and faxed a copy of the Office Action to the undersigned. This amendment responds to the final rejections in that Office Action.

During the April 12 interview, the language of the claims was discussed in relation to U.S. Patent No. 5,859,762 to Clark et al. ("Clark"), which was cited in the final Office Action to reject claims 1-3, 6-16, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The undersigned pointed out specific differences in the manner in which a computing device is secured to the adapter, i.e., via a latch engaging a *cooperating opening* in the computing device (independent claims 1, 14 and 20). Such mechanism for securing the computing device is described at paragraphs [0026] through [0029] of the Specification, as a way of connecting the "portable computing device to the adapter in a more secure fashion." (paragraph [0026]), one example of which is a latch "which engages a corresponding secure keyhole of the computing device." (paragraph [0027]).

It was also discussed the fact that *Clark* merely shows and describes "clips elements" (38; FIG. 1) or other similar elements (col. 3, Ins. 13-19) overlying an exterior of the mounted computer. Thus, none of the securing methods shown or described in *Clark* specifically reference the engagement of a latch with a cooperating

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opening in a computing device

While acknowledging these distinctions, the Examiner indicated that the claims as previously pending were not in a correct form to be distinguished from *Clark*. However, the Examiner suggested that if the claims were amended to recite an assembly including both the computing device having the cooperating opening and the adapter mounted thereto via the recited latch, such claims would then be considered as overcoming the rejection over *Clark*.

Accordingly, all claims of the application are amended herein to recite an assembly including both the computing device and the adapter engageably mounted thereto. By virtue of the above arguments, it is submitted that all of the claims are now fully distinguished over *Clark*, including the dependent claims 4, 5, 17 and 18, which were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Clark* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,093,326 to Ford ("Ford"). In addition, it is submitted that the above amendments to the claims are enterable because they do not raise new issues, while placing the application in better condition for appeal.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance. If for any reason the Examiner has any question regarding the content of this amendment or the allowability of the presently pending claims, he is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

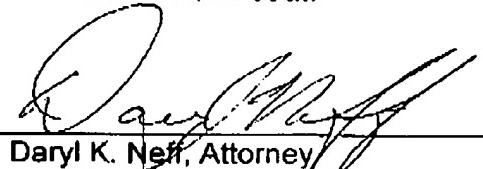
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It is believed that no fee is required upon filing this Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is given to debit the Deposit Account No. 09-0463 of the Assignee for the amount due, and to credit any overpayment to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard C. Ferri et al.

By:



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